the Government from time to time to cut delays in their implementation and remedial measures taken for their timely completion. As each hydro project is unique in its own way keeping in view the site conditions, the hydrological data and the extent of civil engineering, it may not be possible to fix a uniform time frame for implementation of different hydro-electric projects. However, efforts are being made by National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Ltd. that execution of hydro electric projects is achieved in less than five years from the date of insvestment approval.

MoU signed between India and U.K. in Power Sector Reforms

861. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and U.K. have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in London to promote power sector reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to augment the power ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) During the visit of the Minister of Power to U.K. in the last week of June, 2002, a MoU was signed between India and U.K. for cooperation in the power sector. The MoU, *inter alia,* envisages establishment of a Joint Power Sector Working Group to promote and facilitate reforms in the power sector. It also envisages sector related studies, exchange of experts and other forms of cooperation in the power generation, transmission and distribution. The MoU also speaks of cooperation in the filed of power by sharing information, experience and best practices.

Unifying Programmes for Wasteland Development

862. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to bring all of the programmes relating to wasteland development under one umbrella;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the efforts made by Government in this regard;

(c) whether the task force constituted to examine the private sector participation in the development of wastelands in the country has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendations made by the task force; and

(e) if not, by when the task force has been asked to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A proposal is under consideration to set up a National Mission for Land and Watershed Development in the Department of Land Resources and to transfer watershed and soil conservation related activities from different Ministries to the Department of Land Resources.

(c) to (e) The Task Force set up to encourage and promote corporate involvement in wastelands development through the mobilization of additional resource support, is expected to submit its report in December, 2002.

Land to landless families for housing

863. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a plan to allot land on priority basis to the rural landless families for housing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme will be funded fully by the Central Government; and

(d) by when the scheme is expected to be initiated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. There is no Scheme of this kind in this Ministry.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Guidelines on SGRY

864. PROF. RAMDEO BHANDARY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued any guidelines to State Governments on Sampuran Grameen Rozgar Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;